

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-8 (Canceled).

9 (Previously Presented). An apparatus comprising:

- a reflector;
- a light source for producing light of a first polarization and light of a second polarization;
- a linear polarizer which substantially passes light of the first polarization and substantially reflects light of the second polarization;
- a phase retarder disposed between the reflector and the linear polarizer; and
- wherein the light source is disposed between the phase retarder and the linear polarizer.

10 (Original). The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the phase retarder is mechanically coupled to the reflector and has substantially a same shape as the reflector.

11 (Currently Amended). The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the phase retarder and the reflector are substantially parabolic.

12 (Original). The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the light source comprises a substantially spherical light cavity having a reflective inner surface, and having a first window and a second window through the reflective inner surface, the first and second windows being disposed at substantially opposite sides of the light cavity.

13 (Original). The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the phase retarder and the reflector are disposed substantially in an optical path with the first window, and the linear polarizer is disposed substantially in an optical path with the second window.

14 (Original). The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the phase retarder, the reflector, and the linear polarizer are of substantially planar shape.

15 (Original). The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the light source comprises:
an RF-driven plasma light source having a bulb, and having a reflective coating surrounding the bulb and the phase retarder.

Claims 16-29 (Canceled).

30 (Currently Amended). ~~The system of claim 23 wherein the reflector means comprises a substantially planar reflector.~~ A system comprising:

a linear polarizing means for transmitting light of a first polarization and for reflecting light of a second polarization;

phase retarder means for altering polarization of the light of the second polarization reflected from the linear polarizer means;

reflector means for reflecting the altered polarization light from the phase retarder means back to the linear polarizer means.

Claims 31-36 (Canceled).